

AMENDMENT

Please amend the application as indicated hereafter.

To the Claims:

Claim 1. (currently amended) A method of software upgrade control for a system server and a sub-network including a plurality of user terminals, the method comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing said system server with a plurality of updated software versions;
- (b) selecting one of said plurality of user terminals to obtain a selected user terminal and a plurality of unselected user terminals; ~~(b-1) providing said selected user terminal with, said selected user terminal having~~ a first client-server structure and a second client-server structure, wherein said first client-server structure and said system server communicate with each other in an interversion protocol, and said second client-server structure and said system server communicate with each other in a file transfer protocol;
- (c) requesting from said system server a list of said updated software versions that are absent in said selected user terminal by said first client-server structure;
- (d) determining which of said plurality of unselected user terminals in step (b) include any of said absent updated software versions of the list;
- (e) receiving from said plurality of unselected user terminals said absent updated software versions determined in step (d) to have been included in said plurality of

unselected user terminals by said second client-server structure;

(f) receiving from said system server those of said absent updated software versions determined in step (d) to have not been included in said unselected ones of said plurality of user terminals; and

(g) upgrading said selected user terminal with said received absent updated software versions.

Claim 2. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of step of:

broadcasting an inquiry in said sub-network in determining whether said plurality of unselected user terminals include any of said absent updated software versions.

Claim 3. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of step of:

registering at said system server after requesting from said system server a list of said plurality of updated software versions that are absent in said selected user terminal.

Claim 4. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of step of:

providing an agent in said selected user terminal in requesting said list of said absent updated software versions.

Claim 5. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

receiving an inquiry broadcast from said plurality of unselected user terminals by said first client-server structure; and

transmitting one of said updated software versions in response to said inquiry broadcast.

Claim 6. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein said selected user terminal is upgraded within a predetermined time interval.

Claim 7. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of step of:

providing a client in said first client-server structure for requesting said list of said absent updated software versions.

Claim 8. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

providing said first client-server structure with a first server for receiving an inquiry broadcast by said plurality of unselected user terminals; and

providing said second client-server structure with a second server for transmitting one of said updated software versions to one of said plurality of unselected user terminals in response to said inquiry broadcast.

Claim 9. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

providing said first client-server structure with a first client for requesting one of said absent updated software versions from said plurality of unselected user terminals; and

providing said second client-server structure with a second client for requesting one of said absent updated software versions from said system server.

Claim 10. (currently amended) A software upgrade control system comprising:
a system server;
a plurality of updated software versions provided at said system server;
a sub-network including a first user terminal and a second user terminal, each of the first user terminal and the second user terminal including a first client-server structure and a second client-server structure, wherein said first client-server structure and said system server communicate with each other in an interversion protocol, and said second client-server structure and said system server communicate with each other in a file transfer protocol;

a client provided in said first client-server structure of said first user terminal for requesting from said system server a list of said updated software versions that are absent in said first user terminal and also for broadcasting an inquiry to the second user terminal to determine whether the second user terminal has at least one of said updated software

versions that are absent in said first user terminal;

a first server provided in said first client-server structure of said second user terminal for receiving the inquiry broadcast by the first user terminal;

a second server provided in said second client-server structure of said second user terminal for transmitting one of said updates software versions to said first user terminal in response to said inquiry broadcast;

a first client provided in said second client-server structure of said first user terminal for receiving one of said absent updated software versions from said second user terminal; and

a second client provided in said second client-server structure of said first user terminal for receiving one of said absent updated software versions from said system server.

Claim 11. (currently amended) The system of claim 10 further comprising:
an agent provided in said selected user terminal in requesting said list of said absent updated software versions.

Claim 12. (original) The system of claim 10 wherein said system server supports an interversion protocol.

Claim 13. (previously presented) The system of claim 10 wherein said system server supports the file transfer protocol.

Claim 14. (previously presented) The system of claim 10 wherein said system server supports the file transfer assistant protocol.

Claim 15. (currently amended) The system of claim 10 further comprising: an agent in each of said user terminals for data communication between said first client-server structure and said second client-server structure.

Claim 16. (currently amended) The system of claim 10 further comprising: a local area network over which said system server communicates with each of said user terminals.

Claim 17. (currently amended) A software upgrade control system, comprising: a system server that provides updated software versions; and a plurality of user terminals grouped to form a sub-network[[;]], each of said user terminals having a first client-server structure, a second client-server structure, and an agent, wherein [[a]] said first client-server structure formed in each of said user terminals to request requests from said system server a list of updated software versions that are absent, broadcast broadcasts in said sub-network an inquiry as to whether any other user terminals have any updated software versions absent therein, receive receives an inquiry broadcast broadcasted by said other user terminals, and communicate communicates with said system server in an interversion protocol[[; a]], said second client-server structure

~~formed in each of said user terminals to transmit~~ transmits one of said updated software versions to one of said other user terminals, ~~receive~~ receives an absent updated software version from one of said other user terminals having said absent updated software version, ~~receive~~ receives an absent updated software version from said system server if no other user terminals has said absent updated software version, and ~~communicate~~ communicates with said system server in a file transfer protocol; ~~and an, and said agent formed in each of said user terminals for~~ handles data communication between said first and second client-server structures.

Claim 18. (canceled)

Claim 19. (canceled)

Claim 20. (previously presented) The system of claim 17 wherein said first client-server structure communicates with said other user terminals in the interversion protocol.

Claim 21. (previously presented) The system of claim 17 wherein said second client-server structure communicates with said other user terminals in the file transfer protocol.

Claim 22. (currently amended) The system of claim 17 further comprising:

a first storage for storing said updated software versions.

Claim 23. (currently amended) The system of claim 22 further comprising:

a second storage for storing said updated software versions that are unzipped.

Claim 24. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said absent updated software versions determined in step (d) to have not been included in said plurality of unselected user terminals are received only after receiving from said plurality of unselected user terminals those of said absent updated software versions determined in step (d) to have been included in said plurality of unselected user terminals.

Claim 25. (previously presented) The system of claim 10, wherein said second user terminal transmits said updated software versions to said first user terminal using a P2P protocol.